(b) No, Sir. No scientist from Indian Agricultural Research Institute has written to the Ministry of Agriculture in this respect.

(c) and (d) Question does not arise.

Refusal to Purchase Rice from India

2742. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some countries which were buying rice from India have refused to make any purchase of rice;

(b) if so, which are these countries;

(c) the reasons for their refusal to buy rice; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Scheme to include on-Farm Water Management under Agriculture

2743. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to introduce a scheme that seeks to bring on-Farm Water Management or minor irrigation under its wing and also pushes for organic farming in a big way;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal and the total cost involved ; and

(c) what will be the ratio of Centre-State funding of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM : (a) to (c) Government has proposed to introduce a National Scheme entitled "Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Efficient on-Farm Water Management Systems and Use of Organics for improving Quality and Productivity of Crops" which is at preparatory stage. The major components proposed to be covered under the scheme are : vertical drainage, percolation ponds and wells, lift points, community wells, Dorov System, water source for drip/sprinkler, Recharge of water table, mulching, compost making, green manuring, transfer of technology etc., with an proposed outlay of Rs. 300 crore on 75 : 25 basis between Government of India and State Governments.

Effect of White Revolution

2744. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the white Revolution has brought about a significant change in the lives of farmers, traders and also advertising firms and if so, the details as to how these groups have benefited so far;

(b) whether India continues to import milk products and also export these and if so the value of these with quantities (gifts or otherwise) for the past three years or so; and

(c) whether it is a fact that milk products are being imported this year on account of failure of milk production and if so, what has been the milk production, State-wise, during the last three years indicating the States where this has fallen leading to heavy spurt in prices which coincides with easy availability of milk products in the market ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI (ARVIND NETAM) : (a) The Operation Flood Programme has helped to create a remunerative market for primary milk producers and has thereby helped the farmers. It has also helped the economy as a whole.

(b) The decision to import and/or export dairy products is taken based on the then prevailing demand-supply scenario in the dairy sector. The total quantity of milk products exported and imported during the last three years is given at Statement-I *(See* below). The gift import is given in Statement-II *(See* below).

(c) There has been a temporary decline in milk production and in order to tide over the situation National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) has been permitted by the Government to import butter oil during the current financial year. State-wise milk production during the last three years is given at Statement-III.